

A NEW GYRINUS FROM ALASKA, WITH
REFERENCES TO OTHER RECENTLY
DESCRIBED SPECIES
(Coleoptera)

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Since the appearance of my paper on the "North American Species of Gyrinus" (Trans. Am. Ent. Soc., xlvii, 1916), three additional species have been described as follows: *G. hatchi* and *G. dubius* by Mr. J. B. Wallis (Can. Ent., April, 1926), and *G. gehringi* by Mr. K. F. Chamberlain (Bull. Brook. Ent. Soc., October, 1929).

G. hatchi Wallis. The type was collected by Mr. Melville H. Hatch at Crooked Lake, Washtenaw County, Michigan. It measures 4.69 mm. in length, color above black with bluish reflections, margins bronzed, elytra moderately polished but distinctly micropunctulate, beneath entirely rufotestaceous. It is perhaps nearest *fraternus*, but is smaller and with somewhat different male genitalia.

G. dubius Wallis. Type from St. Anthony, Newfoundland. According to Wallis, very close to *picipes* but more alutaceous and micropunctulate above with outer strial punctures less evidently larger than those near the suture.

G. gehringi Chamb. Type from Moose Pond, Pittsburg, in the Connecticut Lake region of New Hampshire. Said to most nearly resemble *lecontei*, but is uniformly rufotestaceous beneath and with quite different genitalia, the middle lobe being triangular, the sides nearly straight and rapidly converging to the sharply acuminate tip, which is strongly laterally compressed. Length, 5.5 to 6.2 mm.

G. piceolus Blatch. This species, founded on two female examples, was suppressed by me as insufficiently distinct from *pernitidus*. More recently Mr. Wallis (Can. Ent., February, 1926) has restored the species to specific standing on the basis of two males, one of which having been sent to Dr. Blatchley was declared by him to be identical with his type of *piceolus*. These males while "resembling *pernitidus* very closely" are said to show genitalic differences sufficient to warrant their being

given specific standing. Assuming the pale hypomera and epipleura to be characteristic, the species runs to *pleuralis* and *affinis* in my table, neither of which it at all resembles.

The following new *Gyrinus* from Alaska, recently received from Mr. R. E. Barrett of Saticoy, California, is another interesting addition to our fauna.

Gyrinus instabilis Fall, n. sp.

Nearly related to *wallisi* in form, color and most structural features, but of average smaller size.

Typical form. Moderately convex, black, two outer elytral interspaces more or less bronzed; disc of the elytra in the male with an obscure greenish reflection between striæ 4 and 7, faint but usually perceptible by oblique illumination; not definitely visible in the female; punctures not bronzed. Surface shining, the luster a little dulled in the female by an evident micropunctulation on a minutely alutaceous ground. In the male the alutaceous ground sculpture is scarcely if at all detectable and the micropunctulation is sparser and feebler, though always present. Striæ weakly impressed, the outer ones a little more noticeably so but not canaliculate; eleventh stria close to the margin; strial punctures slightly coarser externally. Body beneath, including the epipleura, metallic black. Front legs rufoferruginous; middle tibiæ, and hind tibiæ and tarsi flavotestaceous; middle tarsi except at base, and middle and hind femora more or less infusate; claws piceous.

Male genitalia. Color piceous, the middle lobe paler basally; middle lobe nearly parallel-sided in fully apical half, at apex a little less than half the width of the lateral lobes; upper surface flattened for a considerable distance from the tip, which is broadly arcuate-truncate throughout its width.

Length, 4.75 to 5.6 mm.; width, 2.4 to 3.15 mm.

Variations. In a few examples the upper surface is entirely black without trace of metallic luster. In others the surface is polished, with the suture narrowly and the punctures bronzed. In these last the micropunctulation is nearly or quite wanting in the male but present in the female. The genital armature of the male is identically the same in these variants as in the typical form.

Described from a good series of specimens sent me by Mr. Barrett, who collected them all at Circle, Alaska, June 21, 1928. The type is a male in my own collection.

This species very much resembles *wallisi*, which, however, in series is a perceptibly larger species (5.2 to 6.8 mm.). The

total absence of æneous luster along the margins and in the punctures is much more frequent in *wallisi* than in the present species, and the æneous marginal stripe when present is as a rule narrower, more obscure and less definitely limited interiorly, but in a few examples it diffuses inwardly over the greater portion of the elytra. This condition does not obtain in any example of *instabilis*, in which the æneous marginal stripe is more definitely limited and seems never to cross the ninth stria. The obscure longitudinal deep greenish streak at the middle of each elytron in males of the typical form of *instabilis* (those without bronzed punctures) is faintly detectable in two similar males of *wallisi*.

In final analysis comparison shows that, while not greatly unlike, there are constant appreciable differences in the genitalia of these two species. In *wallisi* the middle lobe is slightly more slender, gradually tapering to the narrowly rounded apex, the upper surface flattened only at the immediate apex. The form in *instabilis* has been stated above.

TWO ADDITIONS TO OUR LISTS

I recently noticed among the Elaterids of the Snow collection at the University of Kansas two examples of the genus *Cardiophorus*, taken in the Baboquivari Mountains, Arizona, many years ago by Professor Snow and labelled *aptopoides* Cand., a species apparently not previously reported as having been taken north of Mexico. I submitted the specimens to W. S. Fisher of the National Museum, who confirmed the determination.

Among the Endomychidæ are two examples of *Epipocus subcostatus* Gorham, also taken in the Baboquivari Mountains, Arizona, by Professor Snow. The determination was made by Charles Liebeck and the specimens seem to agree perfectly with description in the *Biologia*.—Warwick Benedict, University of Kansas.